

**SUMMARY OF
GENERAL STATUTES ENACTED
AT THE
NOVEMBER 2018 SPECIAL SESSION
AND THE
1st SESSION OF THE 155th
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA
2019**

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

**316 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334**



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FOREWORD

We are pleased to present to you the Summary of General Statutes Enacted at the November 2018 Special Session and the 2019 Session of the General Assembly of Georgia. This represents one of the services which the Legislative Services Committee and the Office of Legislative Counsel perform for the legislative branch of government. Other services include bill drafting, research, statutory and Code revision, rendering of opinions, counseling, legislative reference, interim committee staffing, and preparation of reports.

This document contains a summary of the general statutes of state-wide application which were enacted at the November 2018 Special Session and the 2019 regular session of the General Assembly of Georgia. No resolutions, local Acts, or uncodified "population Acts" have been included. The document also includes a table of Code sections amended and enacted at the 2018 Special Session and the 2019 session.

Minutely analyzing each statute would be impractical, because doing so would defeat the main purpose which we hope that this document accomplishes. It is intended to be used as a convenient reference for persons desiring to know which laws were enacted or to ascertain the main features of each Act without the necessity of reading the Act in its entirety.

For specific, detailed information on any particular law, the Act itself should be examined. Acts may be readily located in the Georgia Laws by Act number, since the Acts are published in the Georgia Laws in numerical order by Act number. In addition, the Georgia Laws contain a table for converting Act numbers to Georgia Laws page numbers.

This summary is not to be deemed in any manner as an opinion from the Office of Legislative Counsel, and the question of constitutionality has not been considered with respect to any Act.

We hope that this document will benefit all who have occasion to use it. Comments and suggestions for improvement are welcomed and should be directed to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Rick Ruskell
Legislative Counsel

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019 SESSION SUMMARY						
HOUSE BILLS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
	741	233	502	2	4	227/6
Generals Passed	134					
Locals Passed	<u>99</u>					
	233					
Pending/Carryovers			Sent to the Governor for Approval: 233			
House	462					
Senate	31					
Further Action	8					
Conf. Committee	<u>1</u>					
	<u>502</u>					
Prefiled	2					
Unfav. Rept./Lost/ Withdrawn	<u>4</u>					
	741					
HOUSE RESOLUTIONS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
	873	784	89	0	0	6/1
General	5					
Constitutional Ams	0					
Non-Privileged	25					
Privileged	<u>754</u>					
	784		Sent to the Governor for Approval: 7			
Pending/Carryovers						
House	88					
Senate	0					
Further Action	1					
Conf. Committee	<u>0</u>					
	89					
Prefiled	0					
Unfav. Rept./Lost/ Withdrawn	<u>0</u>					
	873					
SENATE BILLS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
	279	95	178	1	5	87/7 *
Generals Passed	69					
Locals Passed	<u>26</u>					
	95					
Pending/Carryovers			Sent to the Governor for Approval: 95			
House	24		*SB 7 became law by operation of law			
Senate	144					
Further Action	8					
Conf. Committee	<u>2</u>					
	178					
Prefiled	1					
Unfav. Rept./Lost/ Withdrawn	<u>5</u>					
	279					
SENATE RESOLUTIONS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
	534	469	62	1	2	1/0
General	1					
Constitutional Ams	0					
Non-Privileged	40					
Privileged	<u>428</u>					
	469		Sent to the Governor for Approval: 1			
Pending/Carryovers						
House	4					
Senate	58					
Further Action	0					
Conf. Committee	<u>0</u>					
	62					
Prefiled	1					
Unfav. Rept./Lost/ Withdrawn	<u>2</u>					
	534					
TOTAL BILLS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled/ Hoppers	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
HOUSE	741	233	502	2	4	227/6
SENATE	<u>279</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>87/7</u>
	1020	328	680	3	9	314/13
TOTAL RESOLUTIONS	Introduced/Filed	Passed	Pending	Prefiled/ Hoppers	Unfav. Rept./ Lost/Withdrawn	Signed/Vetoed by Governor
HOUSE	873	784	89	0	0	6/1
SENATE	<u>534</u>	<u>469</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1/0</u>
	1407	1253	151	1	2	7/1

The Acts in this summary are arranged according to the title of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated which they amend. In those cases in which an Act amends more than one Code title, the Act appears under only one of the affected titles. A table of titles appears below. No Acts are listed for those titles which are indicated by an asterisk.

TITLE 1	GENERAL PROVISIONS
TITLE 2	AGRICULTURE
TITLE 3*	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
TITLE 4*	ANIMALS
TITLE 5*	APPEAL AND ERROR
TITLE 6	AVIATION
TITLE 7	BANKING AND FINANCE
TITLE 8	BUILDINGS AND HOUSING
TITLE 9	CIVIL PRACTICE
TITLE 10	COMMERCE AND TRADE
TITLE 11*	COMMERCIAL CODE
TITLE 12	CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TITLE 13	CONTRACTS
TITLE 14*	CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND ASSOCIATIONS
TITLE 15	COURTS
TITLE 16	CRIMES AND OFFENSES
TITLE 17	CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
TITLE 18*	DEBTOR AND CREDITOR
TITLE 19	DOMESTIC RELATIONS
TITLE 20	EDUCATION
TITLE 21	ELECTIONS
TITLE 22*	EMINENT DOMAIN
TITLE 23*	EQUITY
TITLE 24*	EVIDENCE
TITLE 25	FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY
TITLE 26	FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS
TITLE 27	GAME AND FISH
TITLE 28	GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TITLE 29	GUARDIAN AND WARD
TITLE 30	HANDICAPPED PERSONS
TITLE 31	HEALTH
TITLE 32	HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, AND FERRIES
TITLE 33	INSURANCE
TITLE 34	LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
TITLE 35	LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES
TITLE 36	LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TITLE 37	MENTAL HEALTH
TITLE 38*	MILITARY, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
TITLE 39*	MINORS
TITLE 40	MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC
TITLE 41*	NUISANCES

TITLE 42	PENAL INSTITUTIONS
TITLE 43	PROFESSIONS AND BUSINESSES
TITLE 44	PROPERTY
TITLE 45	PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
TITLE 46	PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
TITLE 47	RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS
TITLE 48	REVENUE AND TAXATION
TITLE 49	SOCIAL SERVICES
TITLE 50	STATE GOVERNMENT
TITLE 51*	TORTS
TITLE 52	WATERS OF THE STATE
TITLE 53*	WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES

TITLE 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Act 321; SB 52

This Act makes extensive editorial amendments to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to correct typographical, stylistic, capitalization, punctuation, and other errors and omissions and reenacts the statutory portion of the Code as so amended.

Effective May 12, 2019.

TITLE 2

AGRICULTURE

Act 111; HB 332

This Act revises the composition of the agricultural commodity commissions by allowing a designee of the Commissioner of Agriculture to be assigned to a commission in his or her place with the exception of the Agricultural Commodity Commission for Peanuts.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 2-8-14.

Effective April 30, 2019.

Act 35; HB 512

This Act enacts the "Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane" and provides for its membership, powers, and operation. The Act further revises the definition of fertilizer and the rules and regulations regarding fertilizers, liming materials, and soil amendments.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 2-8-10, 2-12-2, 2-12-15, 2-12-49, and 2-12-80 and enacts Article 6 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 2-8.

Effective April 18, 2019.

Act 296; HB 553

This Act repeals various provisions creating inactive boards, panels, authorities, centers, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, and other bodies and regarding prohibited conduct on licensed premises relating to the regulation of alcoholic beverages. The Act further revises the membership of the State Victim Services Commission and bill of rights for foster parents to delete references to the now obsolete Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-1A-3, 20-1A-4, 20-1A-8, 20-3-73.3, 31-44-3, 31-47-1, 33-1-19, 35-6-2, 45-7-21, 49-5-281, 50-7-115, and 50-13-12 and repeals O.C.G.A. Chapters 2-15, 2-18, and 2-20, Article 3 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 3-3, O.C.G.A. Section 12-3-73, Article 3 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 20-1A, Article 6 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 20-3, Part 7 of Article 2 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 20-14, Article 9 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-8, O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-43, Article 2 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 33-29A, Article 3 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 49-6, and O.C.G.A. Section 50-36-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 314; HB 213

This Act enacts the "Georgia Hemp Farming Act" for hemp growing in Georgia. The Act authorizes certain academic research and provides for licensing and permitting requirements and fees for hemp growers, agreements between hemp growers and hemp processors, the Department of Agriculture to conduct random hemp testing at fields and greenhouses, either by the department or through an independent contractor, transportation of hemp, a state hemp plan, and implementation of rules and regulations therefor. The Act further provides for the department to establish rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act. The Act also provides the department with the authority for the destruction of hemp crops with THC concentration levels above the established threshold. The Act revises the definition of "marijuana" and provides for an exception to the scheduling of tetrahydrocannabinol and tetrahydrocannabinolic acid controlled substances for hemp or hemp products.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-21 and 16-13-25 and enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 2-23. Effective May 10, 2019.

**TITLE 6
AVIATION**

Veto Number 11; SB 103

This Act provides that certain airports owned, controlled, or operated by a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state may designate and provide priority parking spaces for veterans.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 6-3-29.

**TITLE 7
BANKING AND FINANCE**

Act 270; HB 185

This Act revises provisions relating to the operations of the Department of Banking and Finance, financial institutions, banks, trust companies, credit unions, federal savings and loan associations, shareholders, and mortgage lenders and originators. The Act also revises the department's powers and duties and places new restrictions on the commissioner of banking and finance, deputy commissioners, and examiners. The Act amends certain provisions relating to the right of a shareholder to dissent. The Act changes provisions related to the formation of bank holding companies. The Act provides for additional exemptions from licensing requirements relative to the sale of payment instruments.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 7-1-4, 7-1-37, 7-1-113, 7-1-234, 7-1-291, 7-1-394, 7-1-396, 7-1-398, 7-1-411, 7-1-412, 7-1-415, 7-1-419, 7-1-460, 7-4-461, 7-1-463, 7-1-572, 7-1-608, 7-1-630,

7-1-633, 7-1-650, 7-1-651, 7-1-653, 7-1-655, 7-1-656, 7-1-657, 7-1-667, 7-1-682, 7-1-689, 7-1-706, 7-1-840, 7-1-1000, 7-1-1001, 7-1-1001.1, 7-1-1005, 7-1-1009, and 7-1-1017.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 62; HB 490

This Act makes changes relating to the payment of large deposits of deceased intestate depositors and the deposit of sums held for deceased intestate residents. The Act provides for and revises certain definitions. The Act requires an affidavit from certain claimants. The Act provides for a statutory form for an affidavit of the providers of services of funeral expenses and expenses of last illnesses of deceased depositors. The Act increases the monetary amount of checks or instruments payable to deceased persons.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 7-1-239 and 7-1-239.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 33; HB 212

This Act exempts retailers and retail brokers of manufactured homes, mobile homes, or residential industrialized buildings from the requirement to obtain a license as a mortgage broker under certain circumstances. The Act revises the definition of mortgage broker.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 7-1-1000.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 243; HB 193

This Act allows banks and credit unions to offer savings promotion raffle accounts in which deposits to a savings account enter a depositor in a raffle and provides for definitions relative thereto. The Act redefines the term "lottery" to exclude savings promotion raffles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-12-20 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 7-1-239.10.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 8
BUILDINGS AND HOUSING**

Act 215; HB 493

This Act enacts the "Private Permitting Review and Inspection Act" providing for the review of certain plans related to building and development and procedures for alternative plan review, permitting, and inspection by private providers. The Act also provides that counties and municipalities can contract to implement land disturbance activity ordinances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 8-2-26 and 12-7-8.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 9 CIVIL PRACTICE

Act 30; SB 158

This Act enacts the "Anti-Human Trafficking Protective Response Act." The Act provides that a law enforcement officer or agency or DFCS shall refer any child, or person below the age of 18, suspected of being a victim of trafficking or sexual servitude to an available victim assistance organization to aid in the child's healing, assistance with case management, placement, and access to educational, legal, and mental health services.

The Act prohibits the use of a building, structure, or place for unlawful sexual purposes and further provides that such places are subject to nuisance law violations.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-3-33.1, 15-11-130, 15-11-133, 15-21-208, 16-5-46, 16-6-9, 16-6-10, 16-6-13.2, 16-6-13.3, 16-14-3, 17-8-55, 41-3-1, and 41.3-1.1; repeals O.C.G.A. Section 16-6-4; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-11-130.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 253; HB 502

This Act requires that members of the General Assembly who are a party to or the attorney for a party to a case may ask for a continuance or stay during specified times before, during, and after a legislative session. The Act provides that the court has discretion in granting or denying the continuance or stay, and absent a ruling by the court denying the continuance or stay, such continuance or stay shall be considered granted as a matter of law.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-10-150, 9-10-151, 17-8-26, and 17-8-27.

Effective May 7, 2019.

TITLE 10 COMMERCE AND TRADE

Act 157; SB 122

This Act protects certain consumer data in motor vehicle sales and imposes requirements and restrictions on the use and disclosure of such data, provides for indemnification of motor vehicle dealers for certain claims and damages for violations of disclosure of such information, and allows for a uniform warranty of reimbursement agreements. The Act also establishes dealer performance criteria and prohibits franchisors from specifying certain requirements as to signs and other image elements. The Act further implements and modifies unlawful activities of franchisors.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 10-1-622, 10-1-641, 10-1-645, 10-1-651, 10-1-661, and 10-1-662 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 10-1-632.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 258; SB 97

This Act allows owners of self-storage facilities to charge and collect fees and place and enforce liens for late payment of rent.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 10-4-211, 10-4-212, and 10-4-213 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 10-4-216 and 10-4-217.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 141; HB 221

This Act increases the limit on indebtedness on revenue bonds for the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center to \$500 million.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 10-9-40.

Effective May 2, 2019.

**TITLE 12
CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Act 152; HB 445

This Act revises certain definitions related to shore protection, places the applications for permits under the purview of the Shore Protection Committee, establishes the authority and powers of the Department of Natural Resources in relation to shore protection, and revises provisions relating to permit activities and procedures.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-5-232, 12-5-233, 12-5-235, 12-5-238, 12-5-239, 12-5-240, 12-5-244, 12-5-247, and 12-5-248.

Effective May 3, 2019, for administrative purposes.

Effective December 31, 2019, for all other purposes.

Veto Number 10; SB 80

This Act removes expired provisions related to the issuance and review of requests for proposal for a new location, ownership, management, or operation of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame and the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame. The Act also provides for the utilization of funds appropriated to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-3-522.1 and 12-3-562.1.

Act 222; HB 382

This Act redefines eligible applicants for and recipients of grants under the Outdoor Stewardship Act. This Act also provides for up to 5 percent of trust moneys of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund to be dedicated to administrative costs. The Act requires that the Department of Natural Resources submit an annual report of activities and program expenditures.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-6A-6, 12-6A-7, 12-6A-8, and 12-6A-10.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 55; HB 220

This Act reduces the amount of certain solid waste disposal surcharges and certain tire disposal fees and extends the sunset date for these surcharges and fees and for hazardous waste management fees and hazardous substance reporting fees.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-39, 12-8-40.1, 12-8-95.1, and 45-12-92.2.
Effective June 30, 2019.

Act 188; HB 223

This Act defines animal waste and farm as these terms relate to oil or hazardous material spills or releases and provides for exceptions to the notification requirements of spills or releases.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-14-1 and 12-14-3.
Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 13
CONTRACTS**

Act 39; HB 25

This Act allows contractual relief for military service members permitting them to terminate contracts for television, video, or audio programming services; internet services; and health spa services. The Act also provides that termination is only effective if the service member receives military orders to relocate for a period of service of at least 90 days to a location that does not support the contract.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 10-4-214 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 13-1-16.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 255; SB 37

This Act clarifies that an agreement to modify, alter, cancel, repeal, revoke, release, or rescind a promise, agreement, contract, or commitment that is subject to the statute of frauds shall be in writing and subject to the statute of frauds.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 13-5-30.
Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 15 COURTS

Act 5; HB 21

This Act provides for the initial appointment and subsequent election of an additional judge of the superior courts of the Gwinnett Judicial Circuit. The Act prescribes powers, compensation, salary, and expense allowances of such judge.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-2.

Effective April 2, 2019, for the purpose of appointing an additional judge.

Effective January 1, 2020, for all other purposes.

Act 153; HB 28

This Act provides for the initial appointment and subsequent election of an additional judge of the superior courts of the Griffin Judicial Circuit. The Act prescribes powers, compensation, salary, and expense allowances of such judge.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-2.

Effective May 6, 2019, for the purpose of appointing an additional judge.

Effective January 1, 2020, for all other purposes.

Act 109; HB 296

This Act revises the term of court for the superior court of Hall County in the Northeastern Circuit. The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 271; HB 239

This Act establishes the Georgia State-wide Business Court. The Act provides for location of the proceedings to be in either Atlanta or Macon and further provides for subject matter jurisdiction, establishes requirements for judge appointment, and provides for terms of office, salary, compensation, and appointment of a clerk of the court.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 5-5-1, 5-6-33, 5-6-34, 5-6-41, 9-4-2, 9-4-5, 9-4-10, 9-11-5, 15-6-11, 15-6-61, 15-6-77, 15-7-5, 23-1-1, 23-4-3, 23-4-33, 23-4-37, 24-13-132, and 24-13-133 and enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 15-5A.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 231; HB 288

This Act revises the sums that the clerks of superior courts are entitled to charge and collect for filing documents and instruments pertaining to real estate or personal property.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-15-4, 15-6-77, 15-6-77.4, and 19-8-13 and repeals O.C.G.A. Sections 15-6-77.1, 15-6-77.2, and 15-6-77.3.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 310; SB 171

This Act revises provisions regarding the compensation received by certain local government officials and the manner in which certain adjustments to such compensation are determined. The Act further provides for procedures, conditions, and limitations in which local officials receive certain local supplements and changes a provision regarding the construction of statutes generally by revising the effective dates of a census.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 1-3-1, 15-6-88, 15-6-89, 15-9-63, 15-9-63.1, 15-9-64, 15-16-20, 15-16-20.1, 21-2-213, 48-5-137, and 48-5-183.

Effective January 1, 2021.

Act 227; HB 257

This Act revises various provisions relating to the Council of Magistrate Court Judges and magistrates and further requires that each magistrate remain a resident of the county they serve, be a citizen of the United States, be a registered voter, and have a state accredited high school diploma or general educational development (GED) diploma.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-10-7, 15-10-20, 15-10-22, and 15-10-120.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 28; HB 472

This Act revises procedures concerning removal considerations and provides that before a juvenile court removes a child and places them in protective custody, the court shall consider reasonable temporary alternatives to foster care. The Act redefines "fictive kin," provides time limits for preliminary protective hearings and adjudicatory hearings when a temporary alternative to foster care is ordered, and provides for less restrictive placements.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2, 15-11-68, 15-11-133, 15-11-146, 15-11-181, 15-11-411, and 15-11-414 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-11-133.1.

Effective April 18, 2019.

Act 278; SB 225

This Act revises certain general provisions of the Juvenile Code to bring such provisions in conformity with the federal "Social Security Act," the "Family First Prevention Services Act," and the federal "Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act." The Act further revises the special treatment of Native American children involved in dependency or termination of parental rights proceedings.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2, 15-11-201, 15-11-216, 15-11-231, 15-11-232, 19-7-5, 49-5-8, and 50-13-41 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-100.1, 15-11-219, 15-11-220, and 15-11-260.1.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 143; SB 167

This Act revises procedures the juvenile court may consider in making reasonable efforts in determining permanent placements in child dependency proceedings.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-202, 15-11-211, 15-11-215, and 15-11-321.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 257; SB 73

This Act provides that payments to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund from fees collected in criminal and quasi-criminal cases prior to adjudication of guilt shall be deducted and remitted by the clerk of court directly to the secretary-treasurer of such fund.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-18-80 and 47-17-60.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 312; HB 226

This Act extends the sunset provision of the additional penalty for violation of traffic laws or ordinances under "Joshua's Law" from June 30, 2019, to June 30, 2022.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-21-179.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 16
CRIMES AND OFFENSES**

Act 31; HB 424

This Act repeals an enhanced penalty relating to battery against a person 65 years of age or older. The Act revises penalties related to trafficking of persons for labor or sexual servitude and incorporates certain sex crimes into the definition of criminal gang activity. The Act further revises rules pertaining to the admissibility of a complainant's past sexual behavior in prosecutions for certain sexual offenses. The Act provides that a local or state law enforcement agency can inspect unlicensed personal care homes under certain circumstances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-5-23.1, 16-5-46, 16-5-100, 16-15-3, 24-4-412, 24-8-820, and 31-7-12.1.

Effective April 18, 2019.

Act 295; SB 9

This Act defines and prohibits improper sexual contact between employers or agents with supervisory or disciplinary authority and subordinates in the custody and care of such persons and revises penalty provisions for such offenses.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-6-5.1, 17-10-6.2, 35-3-37, 42-1-12, 42-5-56, and 49-2-14.1 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-92.

Effective July 1, 2019, except Section 8 shall become effective October 1, 2019.

Act 29; HB 281

This Act increases penalty provisions relating to the offense of pimping and pandering by making a second offense a felony.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-6-13.

Effective April 18, 2019.

Act 73; HB 118

This Act enacts the "Protection Against False Claims for Emergency Services Act." The Act revises the offense of transmitting a false alarm, provides for the offense of making an unlawful request for emergency services, and provides for criminal penalties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-10-28.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 60; HB 33

This Act provides for an extension of time for the renewal of a weapons carry license or renewal license for certain service members serving on active duty outside the state.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-129.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 27; HB 324

This Act enacts "Georgia's Hope Act." The Act creates the Georgia Access to Medical Cannabis Commission, which provides for the production, manufacturing, and dispensing of low THC oil. The Act also amends the Low THC Oil Patient Registry to require a physician to review information regarding patients in the program monitoring data base to determine the efficacy of the use of low THC oil as treatment.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-12-191 and 31-2A-18 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 2-11-36 and Article 9 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 16-12.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 267; HB 483

This Act revises certain provisions relating to Schedules I, IV, and V controlled substances and changes certain provisions related to the definition of dangerous drug.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-25, 16-13-28, 16-13-29, and 16-13-71.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 25; HB 217

This Act provides that employees and agents of syringe service programs are not subject to certain offenses relating to hypodermic syringes and needles. The Act further authorizes the Department of Public Health to establish rules and regulations to supervise registration for and activities of syringe service programs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-32.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 59; HB 551

This Act defines "kratom" and designates it as a controlled substance and provides for the prohibition of access to kratom to persons under the age of 18. The Act further provides package label requirements and revises provisions requiring prescribers to register with the prescription drug monitoring program.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-57 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-120, 16-13-121, and 16-13-122.

Effective April 26, 2019.

Act 299; SB 121

This Act increases the length of time for prescription information to be retained in the data base of the prescription drug monitoring program from two years to five years. The Act further authorizes the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to access the data base for enforcement purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-59 and 16-13-60.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 17
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

Act 238; HB 282

This Act provides that the amount of time that law enforcement agencies are required to preserve certain evidence of sexual assault be extended to 30 years from the date of arrest or 50 years in the event of no arrests.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 17-5-71.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 19

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Act 187; HB 228

This Act changes the minimum age of marriage of a child from 16 to 17 years of age and requires any person who is 17 years of age to have been emancipated. The Act requires emancipated persons to present documentary proof of emancipation and to complete premarital education along with other conditions. The Act additionally provides requirements and restrictions for filing a petition for emancipation for petitioners who desire to enter into a marriage.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 19-3-2, 19-3-30.1, 19-3-36, 19-3-43, 15-11-721, 15-11-723, and 15-11-725; repeals O.C.G.A. Section 19-3-37; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 19-3-41.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 219; HB 381

This Act revises and corrects defined terms and terminology, grammar, and punctuation regarding child support guidelines. The Act removes alimony as a specific deviation in certain circumstances. The Act excludes certain adoption assistance benefits from gross income and clarifies provisions relating to willful or voluntary unemployment or underemployment.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 19-6-15.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 218; HB 543

This Act provides standing and adjudication for equitable caregivers of children. The Act provides for procedures and a pleading form to submit to the court to establish such equitable caregiver relationship.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 19-7-3.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 268; HB 64

This Act enacts the "Protecting Military Children Act." The Act requires child welfare agencies to make efforts to determine whether a parent or guardian of a child who is the subject of abuse allegations is on active military duty and requires certain notifications to military installation family advocacy programs. The Act provides for the reporting of child abuse to military law enforcement in certain situations and for immunity for such reporting.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 19-7-5.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 281; SB 190

This Act provides that a party may bring a counterclaim for contempt or enforcement of a child custody order or for modification of legal or physical custody in response to a complaint seeking

a change of legal or physical custody. The Act provides for a cross-motion or counterclaim for contempt or enforcement of a child custody order in response to a motion for contempt or enforcement of a custody order.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 19-9-22 and 19-9-23.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 20 EDUCATION

Act 131; HB 130

This Act authorizes the Georgia Foundation for Public Education to establish a nonprofit corporation to qualify as a public foundation. The Act provides for the conditions of operation of such foundation. The Act provides that one of those conditions shall be the filing of an annual report. The Act also provides for a definition of "direct employee costs."

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-14.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 71; HB 459

This Act provides for a driver's license verification system for school bus drivers which shall require local school board participation and shall be coordinated among the Department of Public Safety, the Georgia Technology Authority, and the Department of Driver Services. The Act requires rules and regulations and certain data submission. The Act provides that records maintained for the verification system shall not be subject to public disclosure. The Act authorizes and provides training for certain personnel employed by or volunteering for law enforcement agencies or fire departments to assist in directing and regulating the flow of traffic.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-112, 20-2-1131, 35-1-11, 40-6-2, and 50-18-72.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 229; SB 83

This Act adds three new elective course choices for eligible public school students in grades nine through 12 relating to the History and Literature of the Old and New Testament Eras of the Bible. The Act provides for the adoption of content standards for each such course. The Act establishes the Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (Reach) Scholarship Program. The Act provides for scholarship eligibility and continuing eligibility requirements. The Act provides for participation of local school systems. The Act provides for proportional funding and the establishment of a foundation.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-148 and enacts Part 4 of Article 7 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 20-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 135; SB 108

This Act requires courses in computer science in middle school and high school. The Act provides for legislative findings. The Act provides for definitions. The Act provides for a phase-in of the computer science course requirements. The Act provides for courses through the Georgia Virtual School. The Act also provides for grants for professional development programs for teachers providing instruction in computer science courses and content. The Act requires annual reporting.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-149.3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 38; HB 59

This Act allows students whose parent or guardian is on active military duty to enroll in public schools based on official military orders prior to physically establishing residency. The Act requires start-up charter schools and state chartered special schools to enroll any student if such student resides in the attendance zone of such school at the time of enrollment and as otherwise provided by law. The Act provides that state charter schools with state-wide attendance zones are considered to have state-wide jurisdiction for certain purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-150, 20-2-2066, and 20-2-2081.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 134; SB 48

This Act requires the State Board of Education to create a handbook and develop policies for the identification of and assistance for students with dyslexia and related disorders in kindergarten through grade three. The Act provides for definitions. The Act provides for ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers relating to dyslexia. The Act provides for a pilot program to demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness of early reading assistance programs and requires that the State School Superintendent submit a report to the legislature regarding the results of such program. The Act provides for the screening of students in kindergarten through grade three and for referrals from such screenings. The Act requires local school systems to provide certain data to the Department of Education. The Act provides for a teaching endorsement in dyslexia.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-159.6, 20-2-208, and 20-2-208.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 133; HB 527

This Act changes Quality Basic Education Formula program weights for funding purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-161.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 318; SB 67

This Act provides that in the event of the destruction of or damage to an educational facility caused by fire or natural disaster in which the majority of the facility is destroyed or damaged, a

local school system shall be immediately qualified for regular state capital outlay funds, regular advance funding, and low-wealth capital outlay funding for the update, repair, or replacement of the portion of the facility that was not destroyed or damaged so long as the facility is 20 or more years old. The Act provides for an additional path for eligibility for local school systems for low-wealth capital outlay funding.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-260 and 20-2-262.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 2; HB 83

This Act provides for recess requirements for students in kindergarten and grades one through five and for control of recess policies for grades six through eight by local boards of education. The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-323.

Act 129; HB 12

This Act requires every public school to post a sign containing the toll-free telephone number operated by the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human Services to receive reports of child abuse or neglect.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-324.4.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 136; SB 60

This Act, the "Jeremy Nelson and Nicky Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act," requires that students participating in interscholastic athletic activities be informed about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. The Act provides for the development of guidelines and other relevant materials and the posting of same on its public website by the Department of Education. The Act requires a school to hold informational meetings twice a year. The Act provides for the removal of a student from an athletic activity under certain circumstances, including instances in which the student displays particular symptoms. The Act prohibits such students from returning to the athletic activity until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation by a health care provider. The Act requires coaches to review a sports safety video and other materials on an annual basis. The Act provides for limited liability.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-324.4.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 224; HB 530

This Act provides for additional requirements with regard to declarations of intent for home study programs. The Act also provides for referrals to and assessments by the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human Services.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-690 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-785.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 7; SB 15

This Act enacts the "Keeping Georgia Schools Safe Act" and requires public schools to perform certain site threat assessments and prepare a school safety plan, which must include the performance of drills. The Act provides for definitions. The Act places responsibilities on the Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center, including the tracking and sharing of information relating to threats. The Act requires the maintenance of a smartphone or other digital application for reporting suspicious activity. The Act requires the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to distribute information about reporting suspicious activity and schools to post such information. The Act provides that the bureau shall have limited jurisdiction but shall include subpoena powers for such purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-1185, 35-3-4, 35-3-8, and 35-3-200 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-1186, 20-2-1187, and 35-3-4.5.

Act 130; HB 68

This Act prohibits entities which operate, own, are affiliated with, or are a subsidiary of an association, organization, or other entity that provides accreditation of elementary or secondary schools from becoming a student scholarship organization.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2A-2.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 226; SB 91

This Act adds nonpublic orthodontic schools and residency programs meeting certain criteria to the enumerated list of education and postsecondary educational institutions exempt from the "Nonpublic Postsecondary Educational Institutions Act of 1990." The Act requires that such exempted entities to maintain a surety bond or letter of credit in the amount of \$450,000.00.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-250.3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 132; HB 218

This Act extends the period during which a student may receive a HOPE scholarship. The Act provides that any full-time or part-time student receiving a HOPE scholarship and enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution after June 30, 2019, shall remain eligible for such scholarship pursuant to this paragraph, provided that such student meets all other eligibility requirements.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-519.2.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 21 ELECTIONS

Act 24; HB 316

This Act provides multiple updates and changes to the Georgia Election Code. The Act mandates the use of electronic ballot marking devices and ballot scanners in all federal, state, and county elections in place of the current election devices. The Act further provides for a uniform system of such electronic ballot marking devices and scanners and for audits of such system. The Act also modifies the procedures by which political parties and independent candidates notify the state of their candidates for the office of presidential elector. The Act updates multiple provisions regarding the registration of voters and the qualifications of electors. The Act authorizes, under certain circumstances, the Secretary of State to join a nongovernmental entity with the purpose of sharing and exchanging information to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the voter registration system. The Act also modifies the procedures for challenging electors and placing electors on the inactive list. The Act further updates provisions regarding changing the location of polling places. The Act modifies various provisions regarding absentee and advanced voting procedures. The Act expands the class of persons who can assist voters in polling places. The Act provides that voter identification cards shall remain valid if the possessor moves to a different address within the same county. The Act also extends the time for election returns to be certified by election superintendents and for the Secretary of State to certify to the Governor the results of certain elections.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 21-2-2, 21-2-50, 21-2-172, 21-2-216, 21-2-220.1, 21-2-225, 21-2-230, 21-2-231, 21-2-232, 21-2-234, 21-2-235, 21-2-262, 21-2-265, 21-2-267, 21-2-286, 21-2-293, 21-2-300, 21-2-365, 21-2-367, 21-2-369, 21-2-372, 21-2-374, 21-2-375, 21-2-377, 21-2-381, 21-2-382, 21-2-383, 21-2-384, 21-2-385, 21-2-386, 21-2-388, 21-2-409, 21-2-413, 21-2-417.1, 21-2-418, 21-2-419, 21-2-482, 21-2-493, 21-2-495, 21-2-498, 21-2-499, 21-2-566, 21-2-579, 21-2-580, 21-2-582, 21-2-582.1, and 21-2-587 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-132.1 and Part 6 of Article 9 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 21-2.

Effective April 2, 2019.

Act 297; SB 213

This Act revises the content and reporting times for certain campaign disclosure reports required by the Ethics in Government Act.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 21-5-34.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 25 FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY

Act 235; HB 458

This Act prohibits the use of class B fire-fighting foam for testing purposes if the foam contains a certain class of fluorinated organic chemicals.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-41.
Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 26
FOOD, DRUGS, COSMETICS

Act 302; HB 233

This Act enacts the "Pharmacy Anti-Steering and Transparency Act" which prohibits pharmacies licensed in or holding a nonresident pharmacy permit in the State of Georgia from self-referral practices.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 26-4-119.
Effective January 1, 2020.

TITLE 27
GAME AND FISH

Act 264; SB 72

This Act removes a prohibition on hunting on wildlife management areas; changes the effective date of certain rules and regulations; prohibits the placement of bait to cause hunting of wildlife on adjoining lands; modifies hunting seasons and bag limits for deer, opossum, and raccoons; and modifies restrictions for hunting feral hogs. The Act also prohibits the use of air guns for hunting in certain circumstances and replaces "conservation ranger" with "game warden" throughout the O.C.G.A.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 27-1-33, 27-1-39, 27-3-4, 27-3-9, and 27-3-15.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 265; SB 99

This Act provides that applications that are processed through the Department of Natural Resources' online licensing system allow applicants to designate themselves as organ donors on the license. The Act also authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to share donor information with organ procurement organizations.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 27-2-2.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 69; HB 471

This Act requires that for persons arrested for hunting, operating a vehicle, or operating a watercraft under the influence of alcohol or drugs, the arresting officer read an implied consent warning at the time the chemical test is requested.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 27-3-7, 40-5-67.1, and 52-7-12.5.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 217; HB 501

This Act creates a shellfish mariculture industry in the state and provides all the necessary requirements for permitting, tagging of the shellfish, leasing of water bottoms, importation of seed from hatcheries, cage limits, and fees. The Act also prohibits certain acts and adds an exemption for the placement of gear for mariculture activities regulated by the Department of Natural Resources.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-5-95 and 27-4-190 through 27-4-201 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 27-4-187, 27-4-188, 27-4-189, 27-4-202, 27-4-203, and 27-4-204.

Effective May 6, 2019, for administrative purposes.

Effective March 1, 2020, for all other purposes.

**TITLE 28
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Act 263; SB 177

This Act provides that requirements for local legislation revising existing districts, creating new districts, and creating new municipalities be either prepared or reviewed by the Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office of the General Assembly.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 28-1-14.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 12; SB 120

This Act provides that the chairpersons of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee may request up to three economic analyses of certain tax benefits from the state auditor each year and outlines the limits and content of each such analysis.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 28-5-41.1.

**TITLE 29
GUARDIAN AND WARD**

Act 233; HB 70

This Act revises provisions relating to guardians and conservators of minors and adults. The Act recognizes the "Uniform Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act" as it relates to the appointment of a guardian or conservator. The Act allows conservators to access the digital assets of minors and wards and revises provisions regarding court contempt powers.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-12-133, 9-12-134, 9-12-135, 15-9-34, 15-9-35, 15-9-37, 29-2-25, 29-2-51, 29-3-22, 29-3-44, 29-4-1, 29-4-10, 29-4-14, 29-4-16, 29-4-30, 29-4-61, 29-4-98, 29-5-1, 29-5-10, 29-5-14, 29-5-23, 29-5-40, 29-5-43, 29-5-44, 29-5-138, 29-5-139, 29-9-1, 29-9-2, 29-9-3, 29-9-11, 29-9-13.1, 29-9-15, 29-9-16, 29-9-18, 29-11-30, 29-11-31, 29-11-32, 53-11-2, and 53-13-20; repeals O.C.G.A. Sections 29-4-17 and 29-5-17; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 29-5-49.1. Effective July 1, 2020.

TITLE 30 HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Act 144; HB 79

This Act provides that legally blind persons shall not be discriminated against by the courts, Department of Human Services, or child-placing agency in matters relating to child custody, guardianship, foster care, visitation, placement, or adoption.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 19-9-3 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 30-4-5. Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 31 HEALTH

Act 41; HB 186

This Act revises provisions relating to certificate of need requirements and prohibits certain actions relating to medical use rights. The Act authorizes destination cancer hospitals to be converted to general cancer hospitals. The Act provides that annual reports be made publicly available and provides for improvements in the state's health care system and coordination of state health related entities. The Act creates the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination and revises provisions relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 31-1-13, 31-2-16, 31-2A-5, 31-2A-16, 31-6-2, 31-6-21, 31-6-40, 31-6-40.1, 31-6-43, 31-6-44, 31-6-47, 31-6-47.1, 31-6-70, 31-7-75.1, 31-7-83, 31-7-192, 31-8-9.1, 31-11-103, 31-11-116, 31-11-135, 31-16-3, 31-18-4, 31-43-12, 31-44-3, 31-49-5, 37-2-4, and 48-7-29.20; repeals Article 9 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-8; and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 31-6-3, 31-6-40.3, 31-6-42.1, and 31-7-22 and O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-53.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 138; HB 62

This Act enacts "Margie's Law." The Act requires that patients be given a certain notice in a mammogram summary when such patients have dense breast tissue.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-1-16. Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 3; HB 187

This Act establishes a three-year pilot program to provide coverage for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions, including medications and counseling. The Act provides for an evaluation report on such program.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-2-12.1.

Effective only if funds are specifically appropriated for purposes of this Act in an appropriations Act enacted by the General Assembly.

Act 303; HB 300

This Act revises the terminology of "continuing care retirement community" to "life plan community."

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 31-6-2, 31-6-21, 31-6-47, 33-45-1, and 33-45-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 320; HB 374

This Act authorizes certified medication aides to administer liquid morphine to residents under hospice care pursuant to a physician's written orders.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 31-7-12.2 and 43-26-12.

Effective May 11, 2019.

Act 74; HB 91

This Act authorizes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to retain fingerprints in the Georgia Long-term Care Background Check Program and central caregiver registry under certain circumstances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 31-7-353, 31-7-355, and 31-7-382.

Effective October 1, 2019.

Act 42; HB 321

This Act extends the sunset provision for the hospital Medicaid financing program and revises tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations. The Act requires hospital websites to provide a link to certain documents and disclosures.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 31-8-9.1, 31-8-179.6, and 48-7-29.20 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 31-7-22 and 31-7-74.4.

Effective April 25, 2019.

Act 234; HB 481

This Act enacts the "Living Infants Fairness and Equality (LIFE) Act" to revise the time when an abortion may be performed and to include unborn children in certain population based determinations. The Act provides a maximum support obligation for unborn children under certain

circumstances. The Act provides that the right to recover the full value of a child begins when a detectable human heartbeat exists. The Act requires physicians to determine the existence of a detectable human heartbeat before performing abortions. The Act provides that an unborn child with a detectable human heartbeat is a dependent minor for income tax purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 1-2-1, 16-12-141, 19-6-15, 19-7-1, 31-9A-3, 31-9A-4, 31-9B-2, 31-9B-3, and 48-7-26 and repeals O.C.G.A. Section 31-9A-6.1.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 45; HB 290

This Act establishes a three-year pilot program to provide preexposure prophylaxis drug assistance or services to persons at risk of being infected with HIV and requires a report on such program.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-17A-4.

Effective only if funds are specifically appropriated for purposes of this Act in an appropriations Act enacted by the General Assembly.

TITLE 32 HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, FERRIES

Act 54; SB 79

This Act removes the word "mechanical" in relation to outdoor advertising multiple message signs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 32-6-75.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 33 INSURANCE

Act 139; SB 132

This Act modernizes and updates various provisions relative to insurance. The Act also revises various provisions for purposes of conformity. The Act removes obsolete provisions related to the Commission on the Georgia Health Insurance Risk Pool. The Act devolves any existing assets of the Georgia Health Insurance Risk Pool to the State of Georgia.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-9-2, 10-1-3, 10-1-32, 20-3-632, 33-1-2, 33-1-3, 33-1-7, 33-1-8, 33-1-13, 33-1-14, 33-1-17, 33-1-19, 33-2-1, 33-2-4, 33-2-8, 33-2-33, 33-3-4, 33-3-5, 33-3-9, 33-3-20, 33-3-21, 33-3-23, 33-3-25, 33-4-7, 33-5-1, 33-5-2, 33-5-20.1, 33-5-21, 33-5-23, 33-5-26, 33-5-29, 33-5-33, 33-5-35, 33-5-40, 33-5-41, 33-6-4, 33-6-5, 33-7-6, 33-7-8.1, 33-7-11, 33-8-1, 33-8-4, 33-8-4.1, 33-8-4.2, 33-8-8.1, 33-8-8.2, 33-8-8.3, 33-9-3, 33-9-8, 33-9-21, 33-9-21.1, 33-9-23, 33-9-30, 33-9-36, 33-9-42, 33-9-43, 33-9-44, 33-10-2, 33-10-3, 33-9-42, 33-9-43, 33-9-44, 33-10-2, 33-10-3, 33-10-10, 33-10-11, 33-10-13, 33-10-17, 33-13-1, 33-13-3.1, 33-13-4, 33-13-7, 33-13-32, 33-13-37, 33-13-38, 33-13-40, 33-14-63, 33-14-107, 33-14-108, 33-15-64, 33-15-102,

33-15-104, 33-16-4, 33-16-6, 33-17-2, 33-17-8, 33-17-12, 33-17-13, 33-17-23, 33-17-25, 33-20-3, 33-20-28, 33-20-34, 33-20A-3, 33-20A-5, 33-20A-60, 33-20B-2, 33-21-17, 33-23-12, 33-24-66, 33-25-14, 33-29-19, 33-29A-20, 33-29A-21, 33-29A-22, 33-29A-31, 33-37-10, 33-37-13, 33-37-20, 33-52-3, 33-55-2, 34-9-121, 34-9-132, 34-9-368, 40-2-137, 40-3-36, 40-3-43, and 47-5-23 and repeals O.C.G.A. Sections 33-2-8.1 and 33-2-8.2.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 40; HB 353

This Act creates the crime of staging a collision.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-1-9.1.

Effective April 25, 2019.

Act 186; HB 99

This Act modernizes and updates various provisions relative to insurance and also revises various provisions for purposes of conformity. The Act extensively revises Chapter 41, related to captive insurance companies. The Act provides for definitions. The Act provides for the use of registered agents to receive service of process. The Act provides for sponsored captive insurance companies. The Act provides for letters of credit. The Act provides for filings and notifications to the Commissioner. The Act provides for the establishment and maintenance of protected cells and provides for certain protected cell requirements at the discretion of the Commissioner. The Act provides for conservation, rehabilitation, and liquidation requirements and exceptions. The Act provides for the applicability of the Special Insurance Fraud Fund.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-1-17, 33-41-2, 33-41-3, 33-41-4, 33-41-5, 33-41-8, 33-41-9, 33-41-10, 33-41-19, 33-41-20.1, 33-41-22, 33-42-3, 33-42-4, 33-42-5, 33-43-2, 33-43-3, 33-44-1, 33-44-2, 33-44-3, 33-44-4, 33-44-5, 33-44-6, 33-44-7, 33-44-8, 33-44-9, 33-44-10, 33-45-7.1, 33-45-11, 33-50-5, 33-50-13, 33-51-3, 33-53-1, 33-53-3, 33-54-2, 33-55-1, 33-56-9, 33-56-11, 33-56-12, 33-58-4, 33-59-11, 33-59-12, 33-60-2, 33-60-3, 33-60-4, 33-60-5, 33-60-6, 33-61-1, 33-63-1, 33-63-9, 33-64-1, and 33-64-2 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 33-41-23, 33-41-24, 33-41-25, and 33-24-26 and Article 2 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 33-41.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 4; SB 106

This Act enacts the "Patients First Act" which authorizes the Governor to submit a Section 1332 innovation waiver proposal to the United States Secretaries of Health and Human Services and the Treasury. The Act provides for the implementation of approved Section 1332 waivers. The Act provides for the expiration of authority. The Act also authorizes the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Act also provides for legislative findings.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 33-1-26 and 49-4-142.3.

Effective March 27, 2019.

Act 147; SB 156

This Act provides for the division of a domestic insurer into two or more resulting domestic insurers. The Act provides for definitions. The Act provides for a plan of division subject to approval by the Commissioner. The Act provides for a certificate of division and for the effect of such a division and provides for the responsibilities of a resulting insurer. The Act provides for shareholder appraisal rights. The Act revises rules and regulations to remove the Attorney General's approval requirements. The Act revises the authorization and procedure for merger consolidation. The Act adds the right of dissent and payment of shares from a division of a domestic insurer. The Act revises the language used in certain automobile and property insurance reduction of coverage notices.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 14-2-1302, 33-2-9, 33-14-43, 33-24-45, 33-24-46, and 33-24-47 and enacts Article 6 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 33-14.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 269; HB 128

This Act provides that insurers and those with certain medical licenses, certificate holders, and permit holders do not have to notify the Georgia Composite Medical Board of agreements to settle medical malpractice claims against physicians when the settlement resulted in the low payment of a high/low agreement. The Act also provides that low payments under high/low agreements shall not be included in physician profiles as medical malpractice settlements.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-3-27, 43-34-8, and 43-34A-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 273; HB 227

This Act expands prohibitions on insurer discrimination against victims of family violence to include victims of sexual assault.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-6-4.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 47; SB 18

This Act enacts the "Direct Primary Care Act" which provides that direct primary care agreements are not insurance and exempts such agreements from regulation as insurance. The Act provides for the discontinuance of services under certain circumstances. The Act provides for definitions.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-7-2.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 279; SB 202

This Act provides that title insurance may be procured on a lender's security interest in personal property taken by the lender as collateral for a commercial loan.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-7-8.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 274; HB 277

This Act allows good will from insurer acquisitions to be treated as an asset. The Act allows mutual insurers to charge policyholder dividends directly to surplus.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-10-1, 33-10-2, and 33-13-5.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 317; HB 491

This Act updates the regulation of insurance company holding systems and provides for definitions. The Act provides the Commissioner with new supervisory authority. The Act provides for enforcement authority confidentiality.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-13-1 and 33-13-8 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-13-7.1.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 140; SB 133

This Act modernizes and updates various provisions relative to insurance. The Act also revises various provisions for purposes of conformity.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-21-17, 33-21-20.1, 33-21-23, 33-23-3, 33-23-4, 33-23-11, 33-23-12, 33-23-18, 33-23-20, 33-23-23, 33-23-28, 33-23-29, 33-23-31, 33-23-33, 33-23-35, 33-23-37, 33-23-40, 33-23-41, 33-23-43, 33-23-43.1, 33-23-45, 33-23-101, 33-24-3, 33-24-4, 33-24-6, 33-24-10, 33-24-10.1, 33-24-11, 33-24-12, 33-24-16.1, 33-24-18, 33-24-19.1, 33-24-21.1, 33-24-22, 33-24-23, 33-24-24, 33-24-25, 33-24-26.1, 33-24-27, 33-24-27.1, 33-24-27.2, 33-24-28, 33-24-28.1, 33-24-29, 33-24-29.1, 33-24-31, 33-24-34, 33-24-37, 33-24-41.1, 33-24-41.2, 33-24-44.1, 33-24-47.1, 33-24-56, 33-24-56.2, 33-24-56.3, 33-24-56.4, 33-24-56.5, 33-24-57, 33-24-57.1, 33-24-58.2, 33-24-59, 33-24-59.1, 33-24-59.2, 33-24-59.3, 33-24-59.4, 33-24-59.5, 33-24-59.6, 33-24-59.7, 33-24-59.8, 33-24-59.9, 33-24-59.10, 33-24-59.11, 33-24-59.14, 33-24-59.16, 33-24-59.17, 33-24-59.23, 33-24-72, 33-24-91, 33-25-8, 33-27-5, 33-27-6, 33-27-9, 33-28-3, 33-29-1, 33-29-2, 33-29-3.1, 33-29-3.2, 33-29-3.3, 33-29-3.4, 33-29-4, 33-29-6, 33-29-9, 33-29-11, 33-29-15, 33-29-20, 33-29-21, 33-29-21.1, 33-30-4.2, 33-30-4.3, 33-30-4.5, 33-30-15, 33-30-23, 33-31-2, 33-31-9, 33-32-6, 33-33-7, 33-33-8, 33-34-2, 33-34-3, 33-34-5.1, 33-34A-2, 33-34A-12, 33-34A-13, 33-35-1, 33-35-2, 33-35-7, 33-35-9, 33-35-10, 33-35-11, 33-35-13, 33-35-14, 33-35-20, 33-35-22, 33-36-3, 33-36-6, 33-36-7.1, 33-37-2, 33-37-3, 33-37-7, 33-37-8.1, 33-37-11, 33-37-17, 33-37-18, 33-37-26.1, 33-37-28, 33-37-33, 33-37-41, 33-38-2, 33-38-4, 33-38-7, 33-38-8, 33-39-2, and 33-39-3 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-59.25.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 155; SB 118

This Act modernizes the "Georgia Telemedicine Act" and renames such Act as the "Georgia Telehealth Act." The Act revises the definition of "telemedicine" and provides a definition for

"telehealth" and other terms. The Act prohibits insurers from requiring that insureds use telemedicine. The Act provides for pay equity for health providers using telemedicine.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-56.4.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 282; SB 142

This Act requires that a statement indicating that the subscriber's health policy is fully insured is included on a subscriber's health insurance identification card. The Act also provides for definitions.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-57.1.

Effective July 1, 2019, and applicable to all insurance identification cards issued by insurers on and after January 1, 2020.

Act 313; HB 310

This Act moves the annual due date that the Department of Insurance must submit an autism coverage report to the General Assembly from January 15 to June 15.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-59.10.

Effective May 9, 2019.

Act 43; HB 63

This Act requires health benefit plans to establish step therapy protocols and to provide for a step therapy exception process. The Act also provides for definitions and applicability.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-59.25.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 301; HB 323

This Act adds a definition relating to the regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefit managers. The Act revises provisions relating to the administration of claims by pharmacy benefit managers and relating to prohibited activities of pharmacy benefit managers.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-64-1, 33-64-10, and 33-64-11.

Effective January 1, 2020, and applicable to all contracts issued, delivered, or issued for delivery in this state on and after such date.

Act 315; HB 367

This Act enacts the "Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act" which provides for the reporting of corporate governance structure, enforcement authority, confidentiality, and applicability. The Act also provides for definitions.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 33-65.

Effective January 1, 2020.

TITLE 34
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Act 185; HB 373

This Act changes certain provisions relating to the Department of Labor and to employment security. The Act authorizes the Commissioner of Labor to conduct fingerprint based criminal background checks of applicants for employment and individuals employed by or performing work for the Department of Labor and provides a process for conducting such criminal background checks. The Act allows the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain fingerprints of such individuals under certain circumstances. The Act limits the use, dissemination, and liability relating to information obtained from criminal background checks. The Act provides for the form of payment of wages upon discretion of the employer. The Act eliminates certain requirements relating to payment of wages by payroll card accounts. The Act changes the definition of the term "benefit year" to provide for such year to begin on a Sunday. The Act increases the minimum and maximum weekly benefit amounts for employment security. The Act changes certain provisions relating to the grounds for disqualification of benefits. The Act changes certain provisions relating to false statements or misrepresentations made to obtain or increase employment security benefits.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 34-2-6, 34-7-2, 34-8-23, 34-8-193, 34-8-194, and 34-8-255 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 34-2-15.

Effective May 6, 2019.

Act 260; SB 135

This Act changes certain provisions relating to the eligibility for appointment as an administrative law judge emeritus of the State Board of Workers' Compensation and provides for terms of office and salary for such position. The Act changes certain provisions relating to the eligibility for appointment as director emeritus and provides for terms of office and salary for such position. The Act provides that certain care, treatment, services, and items prescribed by an authorized physician for noncatastrophic injuries shall not be subject to the 400 week maximum period cap. The Act provides for definitions. The Act increases the compensation benefits for total disability and temporary partial disability. The Act increases the total compensation payable to a surviving spouse as a sole dependent at the time of death.

This Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 34-9-53, 34-9-57, 34-9-200, 34-9-261, 34-9-262, and 34-9-265.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 35
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES

Act 66; SB 31

This Act provides that law enforcement officers shall not be liable at law for any action or actions done while performing any duty at the scene of an emergency under certain circumstances. The Act also provides for no liability of law enforcement officers for rescuing persons or pets from certain vehicles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 35-1-7.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 70; HB 470

This Act provides for analysis and collection of DNA for individuals charged with a felony offense but sentenced as a first offender or under a conditional discharge. The Act revises provisions relating to dissemination of information in the data bank and the expungement of profiles in the data bank.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 35-3-160, 35-3-163, and 35-3-165.
Effective April 28, 2019.

Act 72; HB 325

This Act provides that records of investigation of an officer by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council shall be retained for 30 years.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 35-8-7.1.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 13; SB 153

This Act provides for the comprehensive regulation of trauma scene cleanup services. The Act also provides for rules and regulations, registration requirements, and penalties for violations regarding such services.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 35-11.

TITLE 36
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Act 214; SB 95

This Act provides for solar utility or wind utility service contracts to have a term not in excess of 20 years.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 36-1-26, 36-30-3, and 36-80-17.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 240; HB 134

This Act repeals a population provision regarding the disposition of law library funds in certain counties.

The Act repeals O.C.G.A. Section 36-15-11.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 239; HB 92

This Act permits training completed by municipal court judges in excess of the number of hours required during a calendar year to be carried over to the next calendar year.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-32-27.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 5; HB 311

This Act provides for a waiver of sovereign immunity for declaratory and injunctive relief sought against state or local governments under certain circumstances, provides for a waiver of sovereign immunity as to actions ex contractu for breach of a written contract to which a local government is a party, and provides for exceptions. The Act also provides for direct appeal. The Act only applies to causes of action accruing on or after July 1, 2019.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 5-6-34, 23-3-41, and 36-33-1 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 23-3-45, 23-3-46, 36-80-50 through 36-80-56, and 50-21-50 through 50-21-55.

Act 189; HB 349

This Act revises the definition of "area of operation" regarding redevelopment powers to authorize counties to exercise powers in incorporated areas.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-44-3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 251; HB 406

This Act requires joint authorities to furnish certain information necessary for the state revenue commissioner or the state auditor to determine the impact of their activities on associated tax digests. The Act also requires the use of such net impact to determine the equalized adjusted property tax digests.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 36-62-5.1 and 48-5-274.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 53; SB 66

This Act enacts the "Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act" for the deployment of wireless broadband in public rights of way. The Act provides for the procedure for filing applications, rate and cap fees, collocation, consolidating applications, tolling of applications, pole

requirements, conflict resolution, requirements in rights of way and historic districts, and indemnification by wireless providers and limitations of liability for authorities. The Act addresses applicability to agreements between authorities and wireless providers entered into before October 1, 2019.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 36-66C.

Effective April 26, 2019, for O.C.G.A. Sections 36-66C-1 through 36-66C-3.

Effective October 1, 2019, for O.C.G.A. Sections 36-66C-4 through 36-66C-21.

Act 64; HB 322

This Act changes the monetary threshold for advertisements of bids or proposals for goods or services extended to counties, municipalities, or local boards of education to \$100,000.00. The Act sets requirements for advertising such bids or proposals. The Act further changes the notice provisions relating to public construction contracts.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 36-80-27 and 36-91-20.

Effective April 28, 2019.

Act 26; HB 315

This Act requires that certain agreements from consultants who enter into contracts or arrangements with counties, municipal corporations, and other local governmental entities disclose any material transaction or relationship and acknowledge any violation or threatened violation of the agreement that may cause irreparable harm and that attorneys who provide legal services to disclose the existence of any conflict under the Code. The Act provides relief for any violation.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 36-80-28.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 211; HB 456

This Act increases the expenditure amount for which a local government may elect an annual report in lieu of a biennial audit from \$300,000.00 to \$550,000.00.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-81-7.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 254; SB 29

This Act revises the definition of "local government officer or employee" to clarify that a sheriff's office shall be considered a local government entity and that a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or other agent, servant, or employee of a sheriff's office shall be included in the waiver of immunity for motor vehicle claims.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-92-1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 37
MENTAL HEALTH

Act 216; HB 514

This Act creates the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive review of the behavioral health system in Georgia. The Act further provides legislative findings and for membership, meetings, compensation, duties, and powers of the commission. The Act also provides that the commission shall be abolished on June 30, 2023.

The Act enacts Article 6 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 37-1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 40
MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

Act 61; HB 101

This Act modifies the definition of "all-terrain vehicle" and provides cross-references to such definition.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-1-1, 40-8-91.1, and 48-5-504.40.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 56; HB 454

This Act permits the operation of electric assisted bicycles and provides for required equipment and identification of such devices. The Act further authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to designate certain trails as open for the use of electric assisted bicycles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-3-114, 40-1-1, 40-6-294, 40-6-351, and 40-6-352 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 40-6-300 through 40-6-303.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 272; HB 225

This Act updates the date applicable to the definition of "present regulations" for purposes of the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-1-8.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 148; SB 227

This Act provides for a distinctive logo or emblem for manufacturers', distributors', or manufacturer headquarters' license plates to be placed upon alternative fueled vehicles and authorizes vehicles with such plates to travel in exclusive or preferential use lanes of the state

highway system. The Act also establishes a special and distinctive license plate supporting the Georgia Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs, Inc. The Act also establishes a special and distinctive license plate promoting autism awareness.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 32-9-4, 40-2-38, and 40-2-86.

Effective May 2, 2019.

Act 283; SB 138

This Act provides that law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical service personnel, and other public safety first responders sustaining a major injury in the line of duty are eligible for free specialty license plates and free revalidation decals for such license plates. The Act also provides an exemption from state and local title ad valorem taxes to certain disabled first responders and their surviving spouses. The Act also provides an exemption from state income taxes for certain death or disability payments made to disabled first responders or the surviving spouses of first responders who died in the line of duty. The Act also establishes a special and distinctive license plate supporting the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia, Inc.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-2-63.1, 40-2-86, 48-5C-1, and 48-7-27.

Effective July 1, 2019, with the income tax exemption applying to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

Act 276; HB 339

This Act establishes special and distinctive license plates supporting the Georgia Aquarium, honoring Alabama A&M University, promoting autism awareness, and honoring the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-2-86.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 220; SB 8

This Act establishes a special and distinctive license plate supporting the Atlanta United Foundation.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-2-86.

Effective May 6, 2019.

Act 284; SB 137

This Act establishes a special and distinctive license plate honoring Tuskegee University.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-2-86.

Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 275; HB 307

This Act creates the "Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act." The Act also provides new procedures for how towing companies file for lien foreclosures. The Act provides for a public sale process and sets

forth that any excess funds from the sale of abandoned vehicles be remitted to the Department of Revenue Unclaimed Property Division. The Act further adds that the foreclosure of liens on abandoned motor vehicles is subject to the jurisdiction of magistrate courts. The Act also provides for publication of the "Georgia Unclaimed Property List."

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-10-2, 40-3-36, 40-3-54, and 44-12-215; repeals O.C.G.A. Sections 40-11-2 through 40-11-8 and 40-11-10; and enacts Article 1A of O.C.G.A. Chapter 40-11 and O.C.G.A. Code Section 44-12-211.1.

Effective May 7, 2019, for purposes of developing the required forms.

Effective September 1, 2019, for all other purposes.

Act 145; SB 212

This Act revises the criteria by which the Department of Driver Services shall authorize certain licensed driver training schools to administer on-the-road driving skills testing.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-5-27.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 151; SB 1

This Act enacts "C.J.'s Law" which makes hit and run accidents that result in serious injury a felony. The Act also conforms cross-references.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-5-63 and 40-6-394.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 1; SB 25

This Act provides that drivers approaching a school bus loading or unloading passengers upon a highway with separate roadways need not stop if the roadways are separated by a grass median, unpaved area, or physical barrier and the school bus is on the other roadway.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-6-163.

Effective February 15, 2019.

TITLE 42

PENAL INSTITUTIONS

Act 249; HB 345

This Act prohibits certain practices relating to pregnant female inmates and female inmates in the immediate postpartum period, including certain actions related to strip searches, restraints, examinations, labor and delivery, solitary confinement, and transfer.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 42-1-11.3.

Effective October 1, 2019.

Act 67; SB 6

This Act prohibits the use of unmanned aircraft systems to deliver or attempt to deliver contraband to a place of incarceration. The Act also prohibits the use of unmanned aircraft to photograph a place of incarceration without the permission of the warden or superintendent of such place. The Act makes such prohibited actions felonies and provides for penalties of such.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 42-2-18.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 43
PROFESSIONS AND BUSINESSES**

Act 146; SB 214

This Act amends various provisions of state law so as to prohibit professional licensing boards from refusing to issue, suspend, or revoke the license of a person who is in default on certain education loans. The Act also revises provisions regulating tattoo studios so as to expand such regulations to cover body artists and body art more broadly. The Act further revises various regulatory provisions regarding barbers and cosmetologists. The Act changes the powers and duties of the Division of Electrical Contractors regarding the approval of continuing education courses. The Act also prohibits certain advertisements related to electrical contracting.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 2-7-102, 7-1-693, 7-1-708.1, 7-1-1017, 12-6-49.2, 20-3-295, 26-4-60, 31-40-1 through 31-40-10, 33-23-21, 33-23-22, 43-1-19, 43-1-29, 43-3-27, 43-10-9, 43-10-13, 43-14-6, 43-14-8, 43-20A-16, 43-20A-17, 43-34-8, 43-39A-14, and 43-40-15 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-23-21.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 6; HB 516

This Act revises state law governing the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission by revising certain provisions related to boxing, wrestling, and martial art associations and federations. The Act also provides for the regulation of the profession of structural engineers and provides for the registration of such structural engineers.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-4B-1, 43-4B-2, 43-15-2, 43-15-6, 43-15-7, 43-15-10, 43-15-16, 43-15-18, 43-15-22, 43-15-24, 43-15-29, and 43-15-30 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 43-15-9.1

Act 213; HB 242

This Act modifies the Georgia Massage Therapy Practice Act so as to increase the regulatory authority of the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy to regulate the practice of massage therapy. The Act also allows for certain limited regulation of massage therapy businesses by counties, municipalities, or other local jurisdictions.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-24A and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 43-24A-30 through 43-24A-33.

Effective May 6, 2019.

Act 48; SB 168

This Act clarifies a number of provisions of state law regarding registered professional nurses who hold multistate licenses. The Act revises exceptions to the delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses. The Act also repeals a provision relating to the Nurse Licensure Compact.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-26-3, 43-26-5, 43-26-32, 46-26-50, and 43-34-25; repeals O.C.G.A. Section 43-26-65; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-1-16.

Effective April 25, 2019.

Act 246; HB 253

This Act updates and makes multiple revisions of the "Georgia State Occupational Therapy Licensing Act," renaming it as the "Georgia Occupational Therapy Practice Act."

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-28.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 37; HB 39

This Act enters Georgia into the "Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Act," an interstate compact regarding the licensure and governance of the physical therapy profession. The Act also brings several provisions of state law governing the physical therapy profession into line with said compact.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-33-3, 43-33-10, and 43-33-12 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 43-33-30 and 43-33-31.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 46; SB 16

This Act enters Georgia into the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act," an interstate compact regarding the licensure and governance of physicians. The Act also brings several provisions of state law governing physicians into line with said compact. The Act further requires fingerprint record checks for persons applying for a health care professional license.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-34-5 and 43-34-28 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 43-34-13 and 43-34-300 through 43-34-304.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 232; HB 166

This Act enacts the "Genetic Counselors Act" which provides for the licensure and regulation of genetic counselors.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 43-34-11 and enacts Article 11 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-34. Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 156; SB 115

This Act authorizes the issuance of telemedicine licenses to certain physicians licensed in other states so as to enable said physicians to engage in the practice of medicine with patients in Georgia. The Act also revises provisions regarding vaccine protocol agreements entered into by physicians.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-34-26.1 and 43-34-31 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 43-34-31.1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 36; HB 26

This Act enters Georgia into the "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact," an interstate compact regarding the licensure and governance of psychologists. The Act also brings several provisions of state law governing psychologists into line with said compact. The Act further requires fingerprint record checks for persons applying for a license to practice psychology.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-39-6 through 43-39-8 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 43-39-21 and 43-39-22.

Effective April 23, 2019.

Act 241; HB 192

This Act provides for the establishment, maintenance, and regulation of real estate appraisal management companies. The Act also broadens the authority of the Georgia Real Estate Appraisers Board with regard to real estate appraisal management companies.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-39A-2, 43-39A-7, 43-39A-8, 43-39A-11, 43-39A-13, 43-39A-14.1, 43-39A-22, and 43-39A-24 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 43-39A-14.2 and 43-39A-14.3.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Veto Number 9; SB 75

This Act adds a new member to the State Board of Veterinary Medicine and requires that such member be a registered veterinary technician. The Act also modifies the term of board members. The Act also authorizes said board, pursuant to certain requirements, to conduct a professional health program to provide monitoring and rehabilitation of impaired veterinarians.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 43-50-20 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 43-50-21.1.

TITLE 44

PROPERTY

Act 311; HB 346

This Act prohibits landlords from retaliating against tenants for certain actions. The Act also provides for exceptions and remedies.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 44-7-24.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 230; HB 492

This Act requires applications for execution of a writ of possession to be made within 30 days of the issuance of the writ unless good cause is shown.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 44-7-49 and 44-7-55.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 68; HB 387

This Act provides for liens in favor of private, nonprofit, volunteer fire departments for instances of fire services that are requested by the property owners.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-320.

Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 45

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Act 75; HB 392

This Act provides that members of the Board of Public Safety shall receive expense allowances and travel cost reimbursements. The Act further requires the Secretary of State to promulgate regulations establishing security protocols for voter registration information maintained by his or her office and for the Secretary of State to annually certify compliance with this requirement.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 45-7-21 and 45-13-20.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 137; SB 157

This Act specifies when public funds shall be considered to be held by a depository and requires the State Depository Board to establish certain policies and procedures related to deposit placement programs.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 45-8-14.1.

Effective May 2, 2019.

Act 154; HB 197

This Act establishes the Georgia Data Analytic Center in the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. The Act further provides for any state agency or department that creates, receives, or maintains publicly supported program, fiscal, or health data to enter into agreements with the Center and provides for the transmission of or access to such data by the Center. The Act also provides for the Center to develop policies regarding access to, retention of, and de-identification of protected health information in data maintained by the Center.

The Act amends Part 3 of Article 4 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 45-12.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 261; SB 140

This Act extends the sunset date of the World War I Centennial Commission to December 31, 2019.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-13-48.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 262; SB 154

This Act authorizes the Georgia Coroner's Training Council to review complaints from outside parties and make recommendations concerning the retention, suspension, or removal of a coroner from his or her position.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-16-65.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 49; SB 184

This Act provides that any contracts entered into or renewed for health care coverage for enrollees under the state health benefit plan shall include payment for services furnished by federally qualified health centers in an amount no less than the applicable Medicare maximum allowable reimbursement rates.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 45-18-6.1.
Effective July 1, 2019.

TITLE 46

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Act 51; SB 2

This Act authorizes electric membership corporations to provide broadband services and certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services. The Act also prohibits cross-subsidization between the provision of broadband services and an electric membership corporation's natural gas activities and certain electricity services activities.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 46-3-171 and 46-3-200 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 46-3-200.1, 46-3-200.2, 46-3-200.3, 46-3-200.4, and 46-3-205.
Effective April 26, 2019.

Act 259; SB 100

This Act allows wireless devices and applications to be distributed as part of the telecommunications equipment distribution program.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 46-5-30.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 52; SB 17

This Act specifically authorizes telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates to provide broadband services.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 46-5-61, 46-5-62, and 46-5-63.
Effective April 26, 2019.

TITLE 47
RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS

Act 244; HB 196

This Act requires each public retirement system trustee to complete appropriate education applicable to his or her fiduciary duties and obligations. The Act establishes the minimum number of hours of continuing education such trustees must complete and provides required subject matters for such continuing education. The Act further provides that a public retirement system trustee who does not complete the required education within the time period provided shall be removed from his or her position as a trustee.
The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 47-1-17.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 256; SB 55

This Act revises the method and manner by which members of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may purchase annuities. The Act further authorizes the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia's board of trustees to offer a supplemental guaranteed lifetime annuity to certain retired members of the system and establishes the requirements and conditions for such supplemental annuities.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-2-51 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 47-2-51.1.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 248; HB 319

This Act provides that in the event of the death of a member of the Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund who failed to designate a beneficiary, or if all named beneficiaries have died, any benefits otherwise payable will be paid to the member's estate.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-7-103.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 48
REVENUE AND TAXATION**

Act 266; HB 419

This Act updates referenced dates to certain federal income tax laws incorporated into Georgia law. The Act also revises provisions of state law regarding income tax returns and adjustments for partnerships.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-1-2 and 48-7-53.

Effective May 7, 2019, with the updated dates applying to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

Veto Number 4; HB 279

This Act authorizes certified law enforcement officers appointed by the state revenue commissioner as special agents or enforcement officers of the Department of Revenue to use department motor vehicles while working off-duty jobs. The Act further provides that the commissioner must approve such off-duty jobs and is authorized to enter into agreements with the off-duty employers for the department to be reimbursed for the use of the vehicle.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-2-20.

Act 280; SB 183

This Act provides that any person that is required to file a Form 1099-K with the Internal Revenue Service shall also electronically file a copy of each such form with the state revenue commissioner. The Act also provides that employers will be subject to late penalties for failing to provide employees with statements of wages paid and taxes withheld during the preceding calendar year within the time provided by law. The Act further provides that employers will be subject to late penalties for failing to timely file required returns with the commissioner regarding employee wages paid and taxes withheld.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-2-32, 48-7-105, and 48-7-106.

Effective May 7, 2019, with the provisions regarding late penalties applying to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

Act 58; SB 216

This Act provides that tax sales conducted by a tax commissioner or tax collector may be held in the office of the tax commissioner or tax collector or such other location as may be identified in the required notice of the tax sale and with notice of such location conspicuously posted in the appropriate courthouse. The Act also authorizes local governments to enter into agreements with taxpayers for the prepayment of ad valorem taxes, subject to certain conditions, limitations, and procedures.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-4-1 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-31.1.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 223; HB 507

This Act revises the criteria to be used by tax assessors in determining fair market value of real property by clarifying that the income approach may be considered, but is not required, in determining the fair market value of income producing properties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-2.
Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 225; HB 183

This Act provides that a taxpayer's failure to return real property or whether or not such real property was deemed returned for taxation shall not affect such taxpayer's right to appeal the tax assessor's assessment of the property.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-5-20 and 48-5-311.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 149; HB 344

This Act provides an ad valorem tax exemption to real property owned by purely public charities if such property is held exclusively for the purpose of building or repairing single-family homes to be financed by such charity to individuals using non-interest-bearing loans. The Act also provides for the recapture of any such tax savings if any portion of the exempted property is not financed as provided by the Act.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-41.

Effective January 1, 2021, only if a referendum approving such exemption is approved at the November 2020 general election. If the referendum is not approved, or the election is not held, the Act shall stand repealed by operation of law on January 1, 2021.

Act 250; HB 405

This Act revises the Level 1 Freeport Exemption so as to include the personal property of affiliated entities of the taxpayer and inventory held for the repair, modification, or remanufacture of goods.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-48.2.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 300; SB 65

This Act modifies various provisions of the alternative ad valorem tax on motor vehicles, including lowering the tax rate. The Act also provides that the transfer of a title from one legal entity in which an individual holds an ownership interest of at least 50 percent to another legal entity in which the same individual holds an ownership interest of at least 50 percent does not constitute a taxable event. The Act revises the date range for antique motor vehicles for the purpose of the tax. The Act further updates the definition of "fair market value" for certain classes of used motor vehicles, new motor vehicles, and kit cars.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-5C-1.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 142; HB 266

This Act increases the deduction from state income taxes for contributions to certain savings trust accounts established pursuant to state law.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-27.

Effective May 2, 2019, and applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020.

Act 44; HB 287

This Act enacts the "Preceptor Tax Incentive Program" or "PTIP" which establishes a new income tax credit for certain taxpayers who are licensed medical professionals who provide uncompensated preceptorship training to medical, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant students. The Act also ends an income tax deduction for certain physicians serving as community based faculty physicians.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-27 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-29.22.

Effective July 1, 2019, and applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, and ending on or before December 31, 2023.

Act 228; HB 224

This Act revises the procedures, conditions, and limitations related to state income tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic structures. The Act also modifies the conditions for earning tax credits for establishing or relocating quality jobs. The Act revises tax credits for new purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property in tier 1 counties and provides for such credits to be allowed against a taxpayer's payroll withholding under certain conditions. The Act also provides that under certain conditions previously claimed and unused tax credits earned by taxpayers may be applied against the taxpayers' payroll withholdings. The Act increases the minimum investment threshold to earn tax credits in tier 2, tier 3, and tier 4 counties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-7-29.8, 48-7-40.17, 48-7-40.2, 48-7-40.3, and 48-7-40.4.

Effective June 1, 2019, and except for the provisions regarding the historic structure rehabilitation credit, the provisions shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020.

Act 2EX; HB 4EX

This Act provides for refundable income tax credits for certain timber producers based on certain casualty losses related to Hurricane Michael and further provides for the transferability of such credits.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-40.36.

Effective November 17, 2018.

Act 32; HB 446

This Act revises how the income tax credits for timber producers incurring losses from Hurricane Michael are earned and clarifies that such credits that have been transferred shall not be refundable to the transferee and shall not be eligible for transfer.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-40.36.

Effective April 18, 2019.

Act 3EX; HB 5EX

This Act limits the Governor's authority to suspend the collection of taxes on the sale or use of jet fuel. The Act ratifies an executive order of the Governor suspending the collection of sales and use tax levied on jet fuel. The Act also exempts jet fuel from certain sales and use taxes and limits the taxation of the sale and use of jet fuel pursuant to the Joint County and Municipal Sales and Use Tax (LOST) and the "Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965." The Act repeals provisions regarding jet fuel taxes and an expired exemption from a portion of state sales and use tax for certain qualifying airlines at certain qualifying airports.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 45-12-22, 48-8-2, 48-8-3, 48-8-6, 48-8-82, 48-8-241, 48-8-269, 48-8-269.15, and 48-8-269.30 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 48-8-3.5 and 48-8-19.

Effective November 17, 2018, except that Part III of the Act became effective December 1, 2018.

Act 63; HB 182

This Act modifies the definition of "dealer" under the state sales and use tax law so as to lower the threshold amount for certain out of state businesses delivering goods to be used, consumed, distributed, or stored in Georgia being subject to the tax. The Act also eliminates the option for certain retailers to choose to either collect and remit sales and use taxes or provide certain notifications to certain purchasers and the state.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-8-2 and 48-8-30.

Effective April 28, 2019, except provisions updating the definition of dealer shall become effective January 1, 2020, and shall apply to all sales made on or after January 1, 2020.

Act 34; HB 35

This Act creates an exemption from state sales and use tax for certain poultry diagnostic and disease monitoring services.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-3.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 316; HB 168

This Act extends for an additional five years exemptions from state sales and use tax regarding the sale or use of tangible personal property to certain nonprofit health centers and with respect to certain nonprofit volunteer health clinics.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-3.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 277; HB 352

This Act changes the sunset date of the exemption from state sales and use tax for competitive projects of regional significance.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-3.
Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 236; HB 379

This Act revises the annual reporting requirements of counties and municipalities regarding projects and purposes using special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST) funds.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-122.
Effective May 7, 2019.

Act 298; SB 127

This Act requires distributors under the motor fuel tax law to electronically file certain reports with the state revenue commissioner.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-9-8.
Effective May 7, 2019, and shall be applicable to returns filed on or after July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 49
SOCIAL SERVICES**

Act 252; HB 478

This Act provides improvements to the operation of the child abuse registry. The Act provides for reporting abuse cases to the Department of Family and Children Services. The Act provides for hearings on expungement of names from the registry.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 49-5-180, 49-5-182, 49-5-183, and 49-5-184.
Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 50; SB 207

This Act changes the name of the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce to the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce and revises the board's membership.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 49-10-1.

Effective July 1, 2019.

**TITLE 50
STATE GOVERNMENT**

Act 1EX; HB 1EX

This Act amends the 2018-2019 "General Appropriations Act" to change certain appropriations for State Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Effective November 17, 2018.

Act 3; HB 30

This Act amends the 2018-2019 "General Appropriations Act" to change certain appropriations for State Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Effective March 12, 2019.

Act 319; HB 31

This Act, the "General Appropriations Act," provides for the operation of state government for State Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Effective May 10, 2019.

Act 57; SB 77

This Act provides additional protections for government statues, monuments, plaques, banners, and other commemorative symbols.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 50-3-1.

Effective April 26, 2019.

Act 150; SB 170

This Act designates the Honor and Remember flag as the state's emblem of service and sacrifice of the members of the armed forces. The Act also designates where and when the flag may be displayed.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 50-3-14.

Effective July 1, 2019.

Act 65; HB 525

This Act renames the Georgia International and Maritime Trade Center as the Savannah Convention Center and creates the Savannah-Georgia Convention Center Authority. The Act also provides for the authority's membership, powers and duties, exemption from taxation, disposition of property, exemption of the property from levy and sale, and transfer of certain assets and liabilities. The Act further adds the authority to the list of authorities represented by the Attorney General.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-15-13 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 50-7-55.

Effective April 28, 2019, for the purpose of appointing initial authority members.

Effective July 1, 2019, for all other purposes.

TITLE 52

WATERS OF THE STATE

Act 245; HB 201

This Act authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to promulgate rules and regulations regarding anchoring certain vessels within estuarine areas and to establish anchorage areas. The Act also makes it unlawful for persons to dock or anchor vessels in certain areas and prohibits the discharge of sewage into estuarine areas from certain vessels. The Act also requires certain record keeping which indicates the name and location of pump-out facilities used and the date of use for at least one year.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-5-282, 12-5-288, 52-1-3, and 52-1-32 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 52-7-8.4.

Effective January 1, 2020.

Act 247; HB 314

This Act provides for the titling of certain vessels using waters of this state. The Act also details the procedure for titling such vessels.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 52-7-4 and 52-7-5.

Effective July 1, 2020.

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